

ITEM #0201001A – CLEARING AND GRUBBING

Work under this item shall conform to the requirements of Section 2.01, amended as follows:

Article 2.01.03 – Construction Methods:

Add the following after the last paragraph:

This Project is located within a coastal Connecticut town with no known hibernacula within a 1 mile buffer. The Contractor is hereby notified that the Federally Threatened and State Endangered species, northern long-eared bat (NLEB) (*Myotis septentrionalis*), is present within the project limits. In Connecticut, during the winter months, northern long-eared bats hibernate in caves and mines, called hibernacula. They reside in various sized caves or mines with constant temperatures, high humidity and no air currents. During the summer months, northern long-eared bats roost singly or in colonies underneath bark, in cavities, or in crevices of both live trees and snags (dead trees). Males and non-reproductive females may also roost in cooler places, like caves and mines. Northern long-eared bats seem to be flexible in selecting roosts. They choose trees based on suitability to retain bark or provide cavities or crevices. The removal and cutting of all trees $\geq 3''$ in diameter is prohibited during the bat's active roosting season under a time-of-year (TOY) restriction set forth by the United States Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. Due to the specific location of this Project within a coastal Connecticut town with no known hibernacula within a 1 mile buffer, the TOY restriction, as determined by the USFWS, is April 15th – September 30th. These dates are inclusive.

State and federal laws have been enacted to prohibit killing, harming, taking, harassing or attempting to possess endangered species. Workers shall be notified of the existence of northern long-eared bats in this area and be apprised of the laws protecting them. Observations of any bat species are to be immediately reported to an OEP Environmental Scientist at DOT.NLEB@ct.gov. Refer to the NLEB fact sheet at <http://www.ct.gov/dot/cwp/view.asp?a=3530&q=560976> for additional information.